

564
P. J. H. H.

STATEMENT of Dr. E. L. Cronk, Health Officer, New Brunswick, N. J. taken on January 24, 1923, at his office on Livingston Avenue.

He said one bullet went through Mrs. Mills' right temple. One through the right cheek bone and one back of the right ear. The one that penetrated back of the ear was found in the back of the head, in the soft tissues of the brain. There was one bullet went in her top lip. It was made by a spent bullet, which was not found. It had penetrated the flesh, but didn't break the teeth.

Q. Could this wound in the lip, have been made by the bullet which went through Mr. Hall's head?

A. Yes, if her lips were close to his head.

Mrs. Mills' throat was cut by a sharp instrument. The edges were sharply defined, it was not haggled. The wind pipe, oesophagus and all the blood vessels were severed. The head was only held on by the vertabrae and four inches of unsevered flesh in the back of the head. From the front, you could see the vertabrae. You could insert a finger down the wind pipe or up into the Oesophagus. It was what we would call a "necklace" cut. There was a slight space in front, which was unsevered and a scratch down on the breast, as though the knife had slipped. The cut seemed as if it was made with one circular movement. It was ~~down~~, just at the edge of the collar bone and across the top of the breast bone.

Q. Do you think the throat could have been cut with a pair of shears?

A. No. because I believe if it was done with shears, there would have been a greater space of unsevered flesh in the front. The wound would hardly have come so nicely together.

Q. Did Mr. Mills ask you to describe these wounds?

A. I saw Mills at the school many times. I am the medical inspector at the school, you know. He asked me a million questions. I didn't pay any attention to him. He is a man who talks a lot.

Cronk said there was one bullet went through Mr. Hall, from the right side of the head and came out of the left and penetrated the entire skull.

I don't see how any body could hesitate for one minute to say that Mrs. Mills throat was cut. The only thing that held the head on, was the back bone and the four inches of unsevered flesh. In the first half hour, after these bodies were found, they destroyed more evidence than they will be able to discover in the next ten years.

2